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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of December, 1990)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased slightly during December. The land crew total decreased by two to 98, and the marine crew total stayed the same for a total of 121 crews and vessels, a net decrease of two crews.

The December total (121) represents a decrease of 2% from last month, an 8% decrease from December, 1989, a 14% decrease from December, 1988, a 39% decrease from December, 1987, a 23% decrease from December, 1986, a 63% decrease from December, 1985, and **a decrease of 74% from the same month in 1984.**

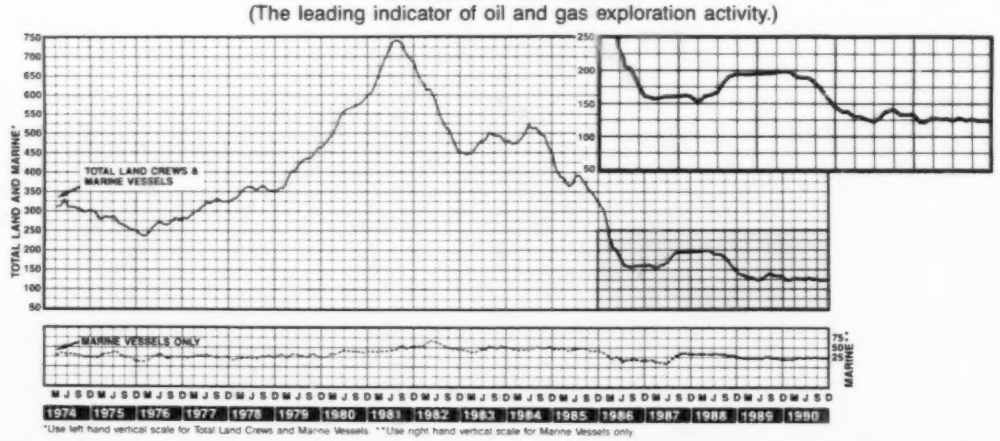
During December, one contractor was operating one of the 91 land crews and none of the twenty marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Dec.'89	Dec.'88	Dec.'87	Dec.'86	Dec.'85	Dec.'84
	121	123	132	141	199	157	326	466

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1989	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1984	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1989	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1984
34 Contr's:	91	94	102	100	157	121	255	378	20	20	17	24	24	15	33	44
5 Oil Co's:	7	6	10	14	15	18	32	36	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	8
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	98	100	112	114	172	139	287	414	23	23	20	27	27	18	39	52

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

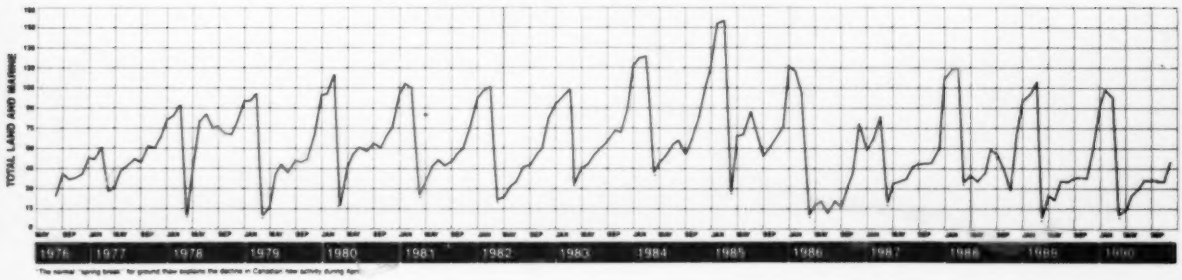
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

December, 1990 (November figures in parentheses)

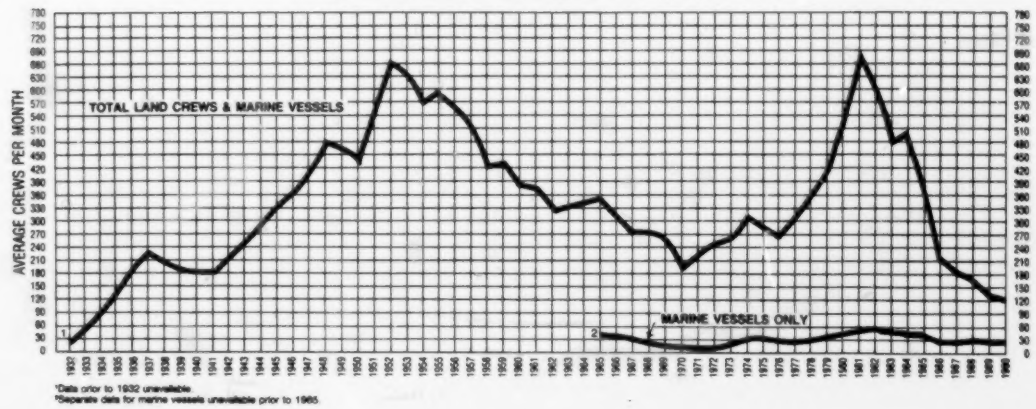
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
24 Contractors:	52 (34)	0 (0)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	53 (35)	0 (0)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



*Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
*Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1985.